name ends in the feminine suffix *-omis* it is feminine under Article 30b of the Code. The sole significant reason for fixing it as masculine is the highly consistent treatment over the past several decades. The American Fisheries Society Committee on Names discussed the case at length in Spring 1990 and agreed unanimously that while *Lepomis* was feminine under the Code, nevertheless under Article 80 it was appropriate to continue its prevalent use as masculine until the the Commission issues a decision. My personal feeling is that minor changes in suffix of specific names are not traumatic and would be quickly adopted after appropriate publication in (for example) *Copeia* and *Fisheries*, plus letters to a few journal editors. I would of course abide by whatever ruling is given by the Commission.

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The proposal to treat *Lepomis* as masculine is in the best interests of nomenclatural stability. Many of the species of *Lepomis* have a vast literature, and it serves no purpose to change *L. gibbosus* (for example) to *L. gibbosa*. The American Fisheries Society Special Publication 20, *Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from the United States and Canada* (fifth edition), appeared in May 1991: I am the first author and Reeve M. Bailey is the second. In it *Lepomis* is treated as masculine pending a Commission ruling. This is the most widely used sourcebook of fish names in North America, and will in effect stabilize the names for the next ten years. I urge the Commission to support the application.

(3) Support for the application has been received from Prof George C. Becker (*2100 Pleasant Hill Road, Kissimmee, Florida 34746, U.S.A.*), Prof Brooks M. Burr (*Department of Zoology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901–6501, U.S.A.*), Dr Carter G. Gilbert (*Department of Natural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611–2035, U.S.A.*), Dr Robert E. Jenkins (*Department of Biology, Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia 24153, U.S.A.*), Dr Richard L. Mayden (*Department of Biology, College of Arts and Sciences, The University of Alabama, Box 870344, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487–0344, U.S.A.*) and Dr Lawrence M. Page (*Illinois Natural History Survey, 172 Natural Resources Building, 607 East Peabody Drive, Champaign, Illinois 61820, U.S.A.*).

Comments on the proposed conservation of the specific name *Coccyzus euleri* Cabanis, 1873 (Aves, Cuculiformes)

(Case 2727; see BZN **47**: 195–197; **48**: 155–156).

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We appreciate the comment by Banks (BZN **48**: 156) that he did not personally apply to suppress the name *Coccyzus julieni* Lawrence, [1864] because it had been used a few times in the last 50 years. We continue to urge that the name be suppressed due to its limited use, the inconvenience that its use would cause ornithologists everywhere, and the fact the both Pinto (1978) and Greenway (1978) returned to *euleri* Cabanis, 1873 after using *julieni*. We further note confusing uses of the name *julieni*. Cory's (1919) important book on South American birds put *euleri* and *C. americanus julieni* as sympatric species, Hellmayr (1929) implied that *euleri* was a separate species but *julieni* a mere synonym of nominate *americanus* from North America, while Ridgeway (1916) included *julieni* as a South American subspecies of *americanus* and a senior synonym of *euleri*. As far as we now know, nominate *americanus* from North America winters in South America, at times at canopy edges next to *euleri* breeding in the canopy, but does not nest there. For a specific example of confusion, Pereyra (1933) reported *americanus* nesting in Argentina, perhaps referring to Ridgeway's use of *julieni*, but he could have had an unusual nesting northern migrant (*julieni* sensu Cory); only the unambiguous name *euleri* would have left no doubt.

Additional reference

Pereyra, J.A. 1933. Miscelanea ornitologica. *Hornero*, **5**: 215–219.

(2) Kenneth C. Parkes & D. Scott Wood
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Some might be tempted to use the argument that the change of name from *Coccyzus euleri* Cabanis, 1873 to *C. julieni* Lawrence, [1864] for the pearly-breasted cuckoo, based on strict priority, would affect only a few specialists. A holotype for *julieni* exists, and nobody appears to have questioned its re-identification by Banks (1988) as a pearly-breasted cuckoo. Nevertheless, considering the previous uncertainty about the holotype and its taxonomic status as expressed in the references cited by Willis & Oniki (BZN **47**: 196–197), the suppression of the name *C. julieni* and retention of the unequivocal and universally used name *C. euleri* is desirable for stability. The literature of South American birds is expanding rapidly and it is clearly undesirable to introduce a completely unfamiliar name for the pearly-breasted cuckoo at this point. We support the proposal of Willis & Oniki.